

the Ninetieth, and Major Buchan, of the Infantry School, a board of officers to examine into the affairs of the Ninety-first Battalion since June, 1885, until the present time. The order specifies that they shall enquire into the condition of the regimental funds, the disposal of Government grants to the battalion, and the manner in which the funds received from the sale of accoutrements have been applied. The militia authorities are not satisfied with the manner in which the battalion has been run, and the board of enquiry has been appointed to locate the irregularities. Col. Taylor will be president of the board, which will have power to examine witnesses.

Ottawa.

THE 43rd Rifles and Guards snowshoe clubs have each entered heartily into the season's programme of snowshoeing, and the Dragoons will follow suit on Tuesday evening next, when their inaugural tramp will be held. The first tramp on shoes took place Thursday evening last, the Rifles availing themselves of the opportunity created by a liberal fall of snow. The Guards had their third outing on Tuesday of this week. At the Coffee House, after the tramp, it was announced that Capt. Berkeley Powell, Paymaster of the Guards, had made a liberal contribution to the club funds, and that Capt. Heron, Quartermaster, had announced his intention of having the club wind up at his house some evening this season, as last.

There was only one military man sought the suffrages of the electorate on Monday, and he came off with flying colours. This was Lieut. S. M. Rogers, of the 43rd Battalion, who was a candidate for the office of public school trustee, in St. George's Ward, and was elected by a handsome majority over Ald. Whillans, one of the most popular aldermanic representatives the ward has ever had. Mr. Rogers served as a staff-sergeant with the Guards' Sharpshooters during the recent Northwest campaign, and the many friends whom he made amongst the corps with whom the Sharpshooters came in contact will no doubt be glad to hear of his success of Monday last, and the evidence of his popularity which it presents.

Correspondence.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS' AIDES-DE-CAMP.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—We see it stated in the newspapers every now and then that some military officer has been appointed A.D.C. to a Lieut.-Governor of one of the provinces. A short time ago one was said to have been so appointed to the Lieut.-Governor of Ontario, and more recently one to the Lieut.-Governor of Quebec. One naturally looks for these appointments to be notified in "Militia General Orders," but looks in vain, and the reason is obvious—these appointments are not made by the Militia Department, and not recognized by it. A Lieut.-Governor is entirely a civil officer with no military status or command whatever. He even cannot call out the militia in aid of the civil power. The one occasion on which he represents the Queen is at the opening and closing of a Provincial Legislature, when he is entitled to a general salute. The Governor-General, although a civil officer, by his commission is appointed Commander-in-chief, and by virtue of such appointment as Commander-in-chief is entitled to a military secretary and military A.D.C.'s. The Lieut.-Governors are not so entitled, and the gentlemen who perform the duties of A.D.C. should be designated Secretary or Political A.D.C., and not assume military titles and uniforms to which they have no right; and thereby cease to make themselves ridiculous and a laughing stock of the "knowing ones."

"RAMROD."

THE STANDARD FOR INFANTRY SCHOOL CERTIFICATES.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—In your number of Dec. 29th, among the list of certificates granted I find that 2nd Lieut. W. T. Lawless, of the 43rd Batt., has received a "first class short course grade A" certificate, although his percentage of marks is only 68½, while in the Regulations just issued (R. and O. 1887, Par. 1090) it is provided that 70 per cent. shall be necessary for a first class in either grade.

I also see that 2nd Lieut. W. M. McKay, of the same regiment, with the same percentage, only gets a second class certificate.

I took my certificate in the first course after the schools were established, and at that time it required 75 per cent. to get into the first class at all, my own figure being 88½, and I think it was a great mistake to have lowered the standard, which for field officers and adjutants should be as high as possible. It would have been better to have raised it to 80 than to have lowered it to 70.

SABRETACHE.

[NOTE.—The certificate awarded Lieut. Lawless was a Second Class Short Course Grade "A," and it was differently published in the official list only through a clerical error.—EDITOR.]

GARRISON BATTERIES.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—I have read with interest recent articles in the MILITIA GAZETTE referring to the disbandment of garrison batteries.

The principal reason for the decline of garrison batteries is the negligence of the department in respect to equipment.

With the exception of the Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery, which has a 40 pr. B.L.R. gun, all the garrison batteries are equipped with 32 pr. or 24 pr. S.B. guns, mounted on old ship carriages, both guns and carriages being of an obsolete type, and the former about as formidable as a pea shooter, the latter liable to tumble apart from dry rot.

Notwithstanding this ancient armament officers of garrison batteries are supposed to drill and instruct their men as if for rifled ordnance, and when the yearly competition of the D.A.A. takes place, men are marched on to the field and told off for firing competitions with 64-pr. M.L.R. and 40-pr. B.L.R., without having, in many cases, ever seen the guns before, and having only a foggy recollection of how to bore and fix fuzes, and in the excitement of the moment endangering the lives of all present with an innate temptation to drive a percussion fuze home with a mallet—or some equally dangerous experiment. In all probability a garrison battery at St. Johns, a point of strategical importance, commanding three bridges, and within a day's march of the frontier, will be the next to pass out of existence. This battery is armed with a 24 pr. S.B. gun, and has no equipment for shifting ordnance drill, nor even serviceable handspikes, and is not provided with a drill shed.

The department has been requested by a qualified officer to whom the command of this battery was recently offered, to provide a rifled gun, to which reply was made that "there were none." Now, if garrison batteries are of any value to the country they are worth arming with the gun that they would use if called on for active service, and the cost to the department of so arming them would be comparatively small and not to be compared with the benefit to the force of having men well and intelligently drilled on a gun that they thoroughly understand.

Field batteries have for years past been armed with modern rifled guns and the consequence is that our militia field batteries compare favourably with those of the British service, and the men are proud of their batteries and have a strong *esprit de corps*. What would these batteries be to-day if they had to struggle along with guns that they despised and which were the laughing stock of all beholders? Yet such is the position of garrison batteries. Will the government step in and reward zealous officers (and there are lots of them) struggling against desperate odds to maintain their batteries, and give them guns that they may train their men as their hearts long to, and give them the satisfaction of knowing that they have a place in the militia strength of the country? If not it is plainly to be seen that within a few years the garrison arm of the service will be no more, as it will be impossible to get officers to "play soldiers" on a mounted "gas pipe."

A GARRISON CAPTAIN.

She Went Astray.

Seeking Afar What May be Found at One's Own Fireside.

THE invalid proprietress of a wealthy estate in Scotland once visited the continent of Europe to get rid of her maladies.

She went to Baden-Baden and tried those celebrated waters, then to Carlsbad and tried its mineral springs. She got worse instead of better, and in despair she said to a physician:

"What shall I do?"

His reply was: "Medicine can do nothing for you. You have one chance, in the waters of Pit Kealthy, Scotland!"

"Is it possible?" she replied, "why, those waters are on my own estate!"

Invalids go tramping over the world, unsuccessfully seeking the relief that often lies right at their own doors.

Change of climate and travel is no doubt beneficial in some classes of disease, but it is impossible to secure, while travelling, the proper care and nursing, the cheerful comforts of home, which are often necessary adjuncts to medicine in promoting recovery.

In many ailments arising, as so many do, from derangement of those primary organs, the kidneys and liver, with the proper remedy to use, recovery is much more rapid at one's own fireside.

Major S. B. Abbott, of Springfield, Mo., was attacked with serious troubles, and after a long course of medical treatment, tried to find relief at Hardin Sulphur Springs in California, and visited a number of other noted health resorts but all to no purpose. At last he went home—he was induced to try Warner's safe cure for his kidney troubles and soon became a well man.

Dr. Gustav Weber, a leading physician of Dessau, Germany, writes Warner's safe cure Co's. branch at Frankfort, Sept. 12th, 1887: "For many years I have suffered from inflammation of the kidneys, and each year was obliged to visit Carlsbad for temporary relief. I have finished my fifteenth bottle of Warner's safe cure and have completely recovered."

The main thing is to find the right remedy, then recovery from all the many ailments that are the result of kidney derangement is most easily secured at home surrounded by home comforts. There are few diseases for which travel is, on the whole, beneficial, but there are many which may be cured by putting the kidneys in a healthy state, thus driving the cause of the disease from the system.

The military club in Paris, founded by General Boulanger, is in pecuniary embarrassment, and an application will be made to the French Chambers for an appropriation in its behalf.

A trial of a new torpedo-boat, the *Janthikke*, destined for the port of Valdivostock, and constructed in St. Petersburg, has given satisfactory results. The average speed attained during a three hours' trip was slightly over the 19 knots constructed for.

Mr. Barker's Chinese agent, Simon Stern, has brought a duplicate of the Viceroy Li Hung Chang's map of the railway under Mitkiewicz's Concession. The route from Peking to Shanghai is via the Grand Canal. It then follows the Yang-Tsze-Kiang River, and reaches Canton via the valley of the Pe Kiang River, its length being about 3,000 miles.

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